

## **Forest Conservation Advisory Committee**

### **Minutes**

**March 24, 2009**

Prepared by: Clark Wagner

#### **ATTENDEES**

##### Members

Paul Allen (WSSC), ex officio  
Jim Hubbard  
Dan Landry  
Brett Linkletter (DPWT), ex officio  
Caren Madsen  
Anne Merwin, chair  
Laura Miller (DEP), ex officio  
Mark Pfefferle (M-NCPPC), ex officio  
Dave Plummer (MSCD), ex officio  
Bill Pastor  
Jeff Schwartz  
Linda Silversmith  
Clark Wagner

##### Absent members

Ginny Barnes  
Victor Bonilla  
Pamela Browning  
Rick Brush  
Andrew Der  
Daniel Lyons  
Norman Mease

##### Others attending

Marian Honeczy, MD DNR

#### **MINUTES**

- 3/31 Deadline for Travel/Child Care Expense
- 3 Reappointments – Mease, Browning, Der
  - Josh Maisel – Resigned
  - Bill Pastor – New Apt.
  - David Post – New Apt.
- Minutes approved with minor changes.
- IWL Visit – (4/19 12-4 Earth Day at B.C.C. IWL)  
20601 I.W. Way (off West Willard, Poolesville)

Date: 4/28

Jim Hubbard will email directions/time

2:00 – 5:00 Tour/Meeting – drinks provided, no food

Carpooling will be coordinated

- Marian Honeczy
  - Overview of job

- Marylanders Plant Trees – effort beginning 4/1/09 – 50k/yr

#### FCL

- 1997 was big year for changes to law
- Changes for utilities
- 3 utility projects are clearing 1/3 of total for state
- Raising fee to \$0.30 from \$0.10

#### SB 666 “No Net Loss” is name only.

- Proposed by “No Net Loss” committee
- Paved lane provision
- Conserve more forest
- Hearings held

#### Road Side Tree Bill Proposed

- Permitting and enforcement aspects
- Hearings held
- Allows county’s to do their own law
- Mont. Co Consumer Protection program works well.

Bills – with fiscal impact are not passing but these 2 bills don’t so something may pass on SB 666 and RST Bill.

Sustainable Forestry Bill (14 total bills this year dealing with forestry)

Urban Tree Canopy Assessment – Univ. of VT does it (low price)

\*Information now is more accurate and communities are finding they have much more canopy coverage than they thought.

Licensed tree experts – on state website – insurance

1500 Licenses in state

MARIAN:

[MHANOCZY@DNR.STATE.MD.US](mailto:MHANOCZY@DNR.STATE.MD.US)

Top Strategies:

Provide public Information about trees and tree care.

15 year report on-line for all counties

- Mont. Co is one of top 3 active counties
- Always top amount of trees planted
- More developed counties running out of land
- Eastern Shore beginning to see more development

What is county not doing well?

- signing a Tree Prot. Plan – Who signs plans?

- Licensed, L.A., Forester, Arborist

Doing the work is a different qualif.

L.T.E. Certif & Arborist is different

Not licensed to do work in MD.

Unsuccessful Afforestation areas: what happens?

- People want to remove easements on lot
- State position: can't eliminate easements

Caren/Ginny report:

- not gone through budget – need to meet with Stan & Laura

Stan – DEP budget was slightly cut – no major changes to programs

Bret's Budget – big problem: pruning, removals,

Capital Budget: \$5 mm cut; no operating cut stumps

- behind by 1 year
- 100-200 short each season on new tree plantings

\*We should do a letter on tree maintenance funding before next meeting – comment via email

\*Public Schools Tree Canopy Program

DEP is working on developing a pilot program in conjunction with stormwater permit requirements. Looking into options for site evaluations to be completed by schools. Initiating process by using GIS to evaluate 2 Elementary Schools, 2 Middle Schools, 2 High Schools

- GIS layer & data done in house
- Not ready for MCPS Facilities participation
- Will follow SWM efforts that are regulatory